

Michigan's Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) Policy

A. Purpose

The purpose of this policy statement is to provide direction to state and local health department staff concerning the distribution and provision of copies of Vaccine Information Statements (VIS).

B. Definition and Background

1. Vaccine Information Statements (VISs) are information sheets produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that explain to vaccine recipients, their parents, or their legal representatives both the benefits and risks of a vaccine. Federal law requires that VISs be handed out by all health care providers in the United States who administer vaccines to any child or adult. The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) requires those patients (or their parent or legal representative) of any child to whom the provider intends to administer such vaccine be provided a copy (to review and retain) of the relevant, current edition of the VIS. In the case of an incompetent adult, relevant VIS shall be provided to the individual's legal representative. If the incompetent adult is living in a long-term care facility, all relevant VIS may be provided at the time of admission, or at the time of consent if later than admission, rather than prior to each immunization.

Detailed recommendations for using vaccines are available from the manufacturers' package inserts, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) statements on specific vaccines, and the American Academy of Pediatrics Red Book.

2. In the state of Michigan, it is important that vaccine recipients, their parents, or their legal representatives be given Michigan versions of VIS because these statements include information about the [Michigan Care Improvement Registry](#) (MCIR). Michigan law requires that parents be informed of the MCIR. VIS that are obtained from other sources (e.g., from the CDC or Immunization Action Coalition IAC websites) do not contain information about the MCIR.
3. VIS with MCIR information are available at the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) website www.michigan.gov/immunize or at Local Health Departments (LHDs).

C. Policy

1. With the transition to centralized vaccine distribution in 2008, Michigan VIS are no longer shipped to LHDs with vaccine.
2. According to Minimum Program Requirements (MPRs), LHDs shall have protocols in place to ensure that all providers who administer vaccines (both VFC and non-VFC providers) are informed of requirements for use of VIS and changes to VIS versions.

D. Procedure

1. MDCH will provide print versions of VIS. LHDs and hospitals may order bulk copies of interim VIS and other VIS from MDCH.
2. *Exceptions* to this procedure include influenza and foreign language VIS; these will not be printed by MDCH. Influenza and foreign language VIS may be obtained at www.michigan.gov/immunize.

3. Quantities of all VIS may be ordered by faxing the *Immunization Materials* order form to 517-335-9855. For more information about this process – or to obtain *Immunization Materials* order form – please contact Jacquelyn Jones at jonesj11@michigan.gov or 517-335-9387.
4. LHDs are encouraged to provide quantities of VIS to immunization practices within their jurisdiction. Providers shall be responsible for obtaining quantities of VIS from the LHD.
5. MDCH is responsible for updating the MDCH VIS website and for providing information to LHDs when VIS are updated.
6. MDCH will send an email to AIM, FAB, IAP, INE, MACI, MACI, MCIR Regional Contacts, PH Imms Leads listserv, and MDCH Division of Immunization Staff with the updated VIS attached.
7. LHDs shall place advance orders to MDCH for any new or interim VIS. MDCH will get the VIS printed; once the VIS has been printed, MDCH will fill and ship orders directly to those LHDs that have placed advanced orders.